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5 August 1958

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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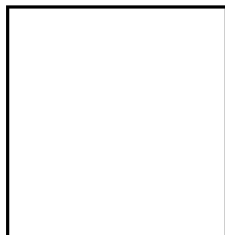
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DAILY BRIEF



I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

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Cyprus: A suspension of "all operations" against Turkish Cypriots and the British on Cyprus was proclaimed by the leader of EOKA, the Greek-Cypriot terrorist organization on 4 August. EOKA warned that operations may be resumed after 10 August if the Turks and British "continue provocation."

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5 Aug 58

DAILY BRIEF

ii

25X1

25X1

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Israel Suggests Informal Middle East Alliance Against Nasir

Israeli Prime Minister Ben-Gurion has proposed that the United States support the "quiet and informal" development of a tacit alliance between Israel, Turkey, Iran, Ethiopia, and the Sudan for the purpose of limiting the further expansion of Nasir's influence in the Near East and Africa. Ben-Gurion told Under Secretary Murphy on 31 July

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The immediate objective of Ben-Gurion's proposed alliance would be to strengthen the existing regimes in Iran and the Sudan, which the Israelis believe "could be overthrown in the near future. The long-term objective assertedly would be economic development in the five states to give the people the kind of life which Nasir "glitteringly promises" his followers.

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The Israeli plan apparently results from the increasing sense of isolation Israeli leaders have felt since the Suez crisis and which has been heightened by the overthrow of the Iraqi Government. This sense of isolation is especially acute with regard to Jordan, where, Ben-Gurion said, "if Nasir comes in, I'm afraid we will have to fight."

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EOKA Proclaims Suspension of Operations on Cyprus

68
The 4 August announcement by EOKA leader George Grivas of an immediate suspension of operations against the Turkish Cypriots and the British follows the worst month of bloodshed on Cyprus since the campaign of violence began in 1955. Appeals for an end to bloodshed had been made by the British, Greek, and Turkish premiers and by Greek- and Turkish-Cypriot leaders. The suspension, if it can be maintained by the EOKA leadership, would mean the end of intercommunal warfare on Cyprus, as the Turkish-Cypriot underground organization, TMT, has previously called on the Turkish community to forego violence, except in self-defense. Grivas warned, however, that he reserved the right to order a renewal of violence after 10 August if British or Turkish "provocations" continued.

Grivas' reasons for suspending operations are unknown. The recent large-scale British security drive may have deprived EOKA of much of its striking power. Repeated statements by British officials promising the return of Makarios to the island if violence ceased for a period of time may also have been a contributing factor in EOKA's decision. Finally, the fact that continued intercommunal violence supports the Turkish contention that the two communities cannot live together and the island must, therefore, be partitioned pointed to the desirability of a truce.

Regardless of the cause for the announced suspension of violence, its implementation will permit passions to cool on the island. It will also give NAC Secretary General Spaak an opportunity to proceed with informal conversations among the NATO representatives of the three interested powers in his attempt to find a formula for an interim Cyprus solution. [redacted]

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